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HECB to be briefed on budget and education restructuring at January meeting

OLYMPIA—Budget and legislative topics will dominate the agenda at the Higher Education Coordinating Board's next regular meeting Thursday, Jan. 27, at the State Investment Board office in Olympia.

Following introductions and the consent agenda, the new chairs of the Legislature's higher education policy committees are scheduled to make presentations on issues expected to come before their committees this session. Speaking will be Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee Chair Rodney Tom, and House Higher Education Committee Chair Larry Seaquist.

Among other items set for discussion will be Gov. Chris Gregoire's proposal to establish a new Department of Education with authority to run the entire state education system from early learning through college. Duties of several existing state agencies, including the HECB, would be absorbed into the new cabinet-level department. Leslie Goldstein, the Governor's policy advisor, is scheduled to brief the Board on the Department of Education proposal. HECB staff will discuss education governance models used in other states.

The legislative portion of the Board meeting also will include an HECB staff presentation on the Governor's higher education budget proposal for the 2011-13 biennium, and staff will discuss the implications of the proposed budget on student financial aid.

Three major staff reports will be presented to the Board. The first is the HECB's annual update of student financial aid programs, which includes status reports on financial aid programs administered by the HECB, as well as student aid changes and trends over the past year.

HECB staff also will present the third Higher Education Accountability Report, which reviews the achievements of public higher education on seven measures, including degree production, freshman retention, and graduate rates. The HECB collects data on the measures every year and publishes a report every two years.

Finally, agency staff will present a summary of degree program approval activities over the past year. One of the HECB's major responsibilities is reviewing and approving proposals for new degree programs at public four year institutions, as well as applied baccalaureate degrees at two-year institutions. The process helps reduce duplication in college degree programs and ensures adequate demand for new programs.

Briefing materials for the meeting are available at: www.hecb.wa.gov/boardmtgs/index.asp

Who: Higher Education Coordinating Board
What: January regular meeting
Where: State Investment Board Room
2100Evergreen Park Drive SW, Olympia 98502
When: Thursday, January 27, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting – January 27, 2011

9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

- *Ethelda Burke, Chair, Higher Education Coordinating Board*

Consent Agenda

Approval of November Meeting Minutes

Adoption of Changes to Board Bylaws

Resolution 11-03

New Degree Program for Approval: CWU Master of Science in Law and Justice

Resolution 11-01

Moderate Degree Program Change Proposal: EWU, Bachelor of Arts in Education in Early Childhood Education

Resolution 11-02

9:15 a.m. Discussion with Legislators

- *Rep. Larry Seaquist, Chair, House Higher Education Committee*
- *Sen. Rodney Tom, Chair, Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee*

10 a.m. Roadmap for 2011

Don Bennett, Executive Director, will present an update on agency programs and activities, including an overview of key events

Summary of Budget Status

Staff will provide the board with a summary of the Governor's 2011-13 higher education budget proposal.

Impact to Student Aid of the Governor's Proposed Budget

Staff will discuss the implications of the governor's proposed budget on student financial aid.

Annual Update: Financial Aid Programs

1 p.m. Governor's Proposal: Department of Education

- *Leslie Goldstein, Governor's policy advisor*

**Fitting Together Policy Environment, System Designs and Leadership:
What's Best for Washington**

Staff will present models of higher education governance in other states, addressing in particular how well different higher education governance structures fit their policy environments and system designs.

2 p.m. Accountability Report

2:30 p.m. Degree Program Approvals: Information and Discussion

Status Report on Program Approvals

Proposed Revisions to the Program Approval Process

3:30 p.m. Adjournment

Public Comment: A sign-in sheet is provided for public comment on any of the Board items.

Meeting Accommodation: Persons who require special accommodation for attendance must call the HECB at 360-753-7800 as soon as possible before the meeting.

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